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CLAIMS

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) [[A]] An user interface automation system for a user interface comprising following components stored in a computer memory:
 - an input component that receives a request; and [[,]]
 - a navigation component that receives the request from the input component and facilitates ~~simulated~~ simulating a user interface associated with an automation component; ~~based, at least in part, upon information stored in~~
 - a map information store comprising one or more section names that divide the map information store into specific page data wherein a specific section name references a specific page of the automation component;
 - a command information store that comprises command information regarding one or more pages and one or more actions to execute for a given page associated with the automation component;
 - and the navigation component facilitates simulating the user interface based at least upon information stored in [[a]] the command information store[[,]] and the map information store, wherein the map information store, the command information store and associated executables are stored separately, the navigation component further modifies the user interface automation without recompiling executables ~~by modifying~~ upon modification of one or more of the map information store or the command information store, the navigation component further employs information stored in a global information store when a global variable is encountered in the command information store and facilitates a global variable replacement from a single location and sharing of a common program flow among a plurality of users.
2. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the automation component is a wizard.
3. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the map information store comprises a text-based file.

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4. (Previously presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the command information store comprises a text-based file.
5. (Cancelled)
6. (Cancelled)
7. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein at least one of the map information store and the configuration information store comprise at least one alias name.
8. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the navigation component further stores error information in a log information store.
9. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the navigation component further stores information associated with the request in a log information store.
10. (Original) The system of claim 9, wherein the navigation component iterates through information stored in the command information store, performs the indicated operation and stores information associated with the indicated operation in the log information store.
11. (Original) The system of claim 9, wherein the navigation component stores error information in the log information store.
12. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the input component performs input validation upon the request and provides error information if the request is invalid.
13. (Original) The system of claim 12, wherein a graphical message is displayed to a user of the system, the graphical message being based, at least in part, upon the error information from the input component.

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14. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the input component receives a command line invocation.
15. (Original) The system of claim 1, the map information store comprising a section name and a page identifier.
16. (Original) The system of claim 15, the page identifier comprising a label for a control, the page identifier further uniquely identifying a particular page.
17. (Original) The system of claim 15, the page identifier comprising a control type.
18. (Original) The system of claim 17, wherein the control type is at least one of button, combo, list, scroll, static, radio and check.
19. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, wherein information stored in the command information store can be modified by at least one of a front-end user interface application, scripting, a batch file ~~and~~ or a text editor.
20. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, the command information store comprising a section name, the section name corresponding to information stored in the map information store[[,]] ~~the command information store further comprising an action.~~
21. (Original) The system of claim 1, the command information store storing information associated with at least one of a function key and a control key simulation.
22. (Currently Amended) A method of automating user interface comprising:
receiving mapping information from a map information store comprising specific section names that reference specific pages of an automation component;
receiving command information from a command information store comprising specific section names corresponding to information stored in the map information store and information associated with commands to be executed for respective pages of the automation component;

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retrieving global information from a global information store;
~~performing simulated~~ simulating a user interface based, at least in part, upon information stored in the map information store and the command information store;
employing information stored in the global information store when a global variable is encountered in the command information store; and
modifying the user interface automation upon modification of one or more of the map information store or the command information store, by storing data, commands and executables separately and maintaining compiled executables.

23. (Original) The method of claim 22, further comprising:
storing information in a log information store, if an error is detected performing the simulated user interface.
24. (Original) A computer readable medium having stored thereon computer executable instructions for carrying out the method of claim 22.
25. (Previously presented) A method of automating user interface comprising:
retrieving mapping information from a map file;
retrieving command information from a command file;
retrieving global information from a global file;
obtaining a section name from the command file;
retrieving page identification information from the map file associated with the section name;
retrieving section data for section associated with the section name from the command file;
performing an action associated with the retrieved section data;
employing information stored in the global file when a global variable is encountered in the command file;
sharing a common program flow among a plurality of users;
modifying the user interface automation by modifying the command file or map file and maintaining compilation of executables; and

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separately storing at least one of:

the map file,

the command file; or

the compiled executables.

26. (Original) The method of claim 25, further comprising:
storing information in a log file, if an error is detected performing the action.
27. (Original) A computer readable medium having stored thereon computer executable instructions for carrying out the method of claim 25.
28. (Currently amended) [[A]] ~~An user interface~~ automation system for a user interface comprising following components stored in a computer memory:
an input component that receives a request; and,
a navigation component that receives the request from the input component and facilitates simulated user interface associated with an automation component based, at least in part, upon information stored in a map information store and information stored in a command information store, the map information store, the command information store and executables are stored separately, the navigation component modifies the user interface automation by modifying at least one of the map information store or the command information store while maintaining compiled executables, the navigation component further employs information stored in a global information store when a global variable is encountered in the command information store and facilitates a global variable replacement from a single location and sharing of a common program flow among a plurality of users.
29. (Currently amended) [[A]] ~~An user interface~~ automation system for a user interface comprising following components stored in a computer memory:
means for receiving a request;